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## Few Signs Seen of Rush to Buy Oil

By ROBERT D. HERSHEY Jr.

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 30 — Prices of both refined products and crude oil moved up again in overseas spot markets today, with France and Brazil among the buyers, according to industry sources.

But while activity increased somewhat, specialists said demand remained erratic and there were few signs of a rush to buy oil at a time of record world inventories and slack demand.

In fact, "It would not appear to me that there are any distinct trends," said Brice A. Sachs, executive vice president of the Exxon International Company, before a House Energy subcommittee this morning.

Unlike the experience during the Ira-

nian revolution, Mr. Sachs added, the price effects of the Iraq-Iran conflict are "considerably more mixed and considerably more dampened."

Much attention at today's hearing and elsewhere was directed at trying to assess the damage to Middle East oil facilities, but reports were still sketchy. "Unfortunately we do not have any information on the extent or nature of the damage to either country's oil facilities," Mr. Sachs declared. "This will probably remain a major uncertainty at least until hostilities cease."

Another witness, Charles L. Campbell, senior vice president of the Gulf Trading and Transportation Company, said there appeared to be a "significant" amount of damage that might even force Iran and Iraq to import refined products, probably from other Persian Gulf producers.

But the company maintained there were some grounds for optimism. In the case of Iraq at least, exports could be expected to "come back fairly soon" after the fighting ends, the company said, a view that differed from the gloomy projections that prevail in the Middle East.

Meanwhile, the Senate Energy Committee was briefed on the situation behind closed doors by officials of the State Department, the Energy Department and the Central Intelligence Agency.

Senator Henry M. Jackson, the Washington Democrat who is committee chairman, declined to comment on specific contingency plans discussed, including what might be done to keep the Strait of Hormuz open, but he said there had been "encouraging indications" that Iraqi oil exports could be resumed sooner than expected.